

Master Chief Mass Communication Specialist
Donald "Kevin" Elliott
United States Navy

Master Chief Elliott joined the Navy in December 1988 and completed boot camp at San Diego Recruit Training Command as the honor recruit for his class.

He graduated Operations Specialist "A" school number one in his class in September 1989 and worked for the remainder of his enlistment in the Public Affairs Office at Dam Neck Naval Base in Virginia Beach, VA. In March 1992 he was released from active duty and moved straight into the Navy Reserves, assigned to TACRON 24 at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek. In July 1995 he transferred to Atlantic Fleet Imaging Unit 0186 at Naval Air Reserve Norfolk. Cross-rated to Journalist Second Class in January 1997, he was promoted to First Class Petty Officer later that year. When Imagu 0186 closed its doors in March 2000 he became the Leading Petty Officer at Navy Information Bureau Det 102 at Naval Station Norfolk. In 2002 he was promoted to Chief Petty Officer and ordered to Naval Media Center Fleet Support Detachment as the Senior Enlisted Advisor. When the media center detachment was disestablished in October 2004 he became the Leading Chief Petty Officer at the Navy Office of Information Detachment Fleet Forces Command. In October 2006 he moved to Combat Camera Atlantic as the Leading Chief Petty Officer. He was selected as a Senior Chief Petty Officer in May 2007 and was subsequently assigned as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Joint Public Affairs Support Element Reserve unit.

Mobilized to Afghanistan in July 2009 he served as a Task Force Public Affairs Officer and was promoted to Master Chief. His team supported six battalions, a general officer's command staff and multiple coalition partner detachments. Upon his return he was named as the incoming Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Vice Chief of Information in charge of over 200 Sailors.

Master Chief Elliott has traveled the world for the Navy Reserve and many of his photographs have appeared in countless trade publications and military magazines. Among his many assignments he has rode a submarine to the North Pole, volunteered for Hurricane Katrina relief and sailed the Baltic Sea. He was the 2003 Naval Reserve Photographer of the Year.

Master Chief Elliott was on the photography staff of The Virginian Pilot newspaper in Norfolk, VA for seven years and is now a freelance commercial and editorial photographer working with USA Today, The New York Times and Navy Times among other national and international publications. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from Arizona State University. Master Chief Elliott is married to the former Dianne Hippelheuser. They have one son, Jacob Robert and reside in Indianapolis.